

REMARKS:

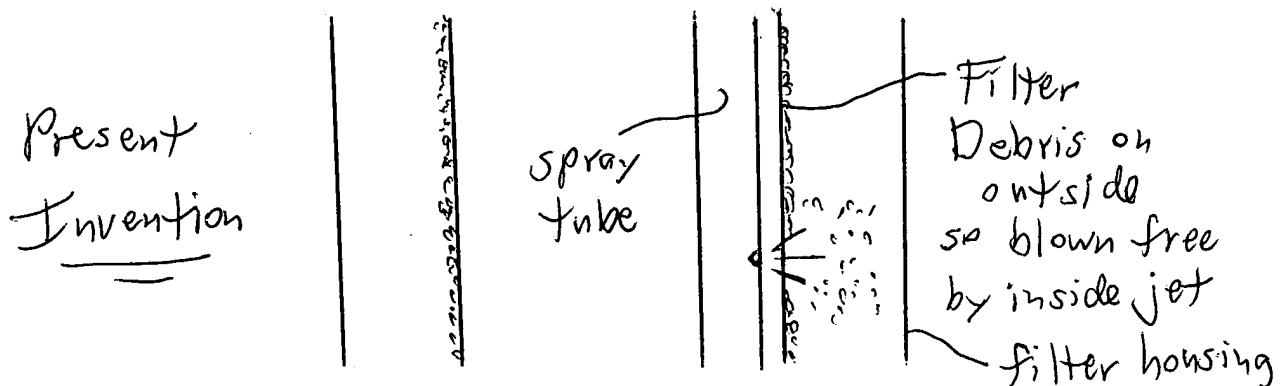
Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claim 4 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, because claim 4 depends from canceled claim 3. Claim 4 is canceled.

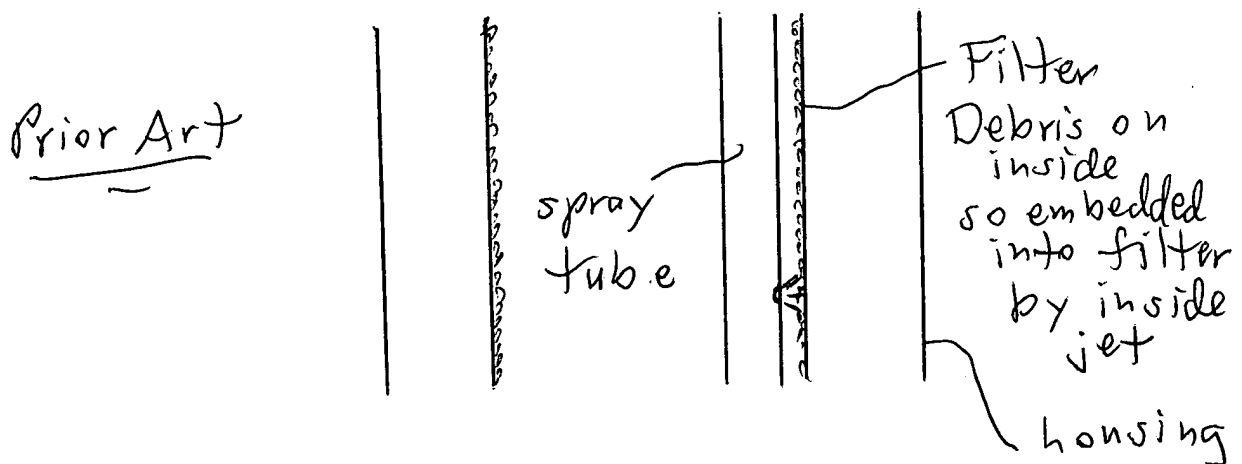
Claims 1 and 2 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiBella 840 in view of Costinel 825, both of record, and in view of newly cited Sands et al. 443 and Dahlquist 392. Claims 4 and 7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. section 103(a) as being unpatentable over DiBella 840 in view of Costinel 825 and Dahlquist as applied to claims 1 and 2 above, and further in view of Yang patent 604 and Caracciolo 903.

Claim 1 is amended to add the limitation not found in the cited art, that the composite media flows into the cylindrical housing outside the cylindrical filter and flows through and into the interior of the cylindrical filter from which the composite media exits the housing, so that filtered material collects on the outward surface of the cylindrical filter. As a result, spray from the spray tube of the rotatable self cleaning means which is located within the cylindrical filter is directed onto the filter inward surface so that the spray passes through the filter outwardly and dislodges material collected on the filter outward

surface, which exits the housing through the outlet, as illustrated:



Liquid to be filtered passes through the prior art cylindrical filters from inside outwardly, so that filtered debris collects on the inward surface of the prior filters. Then cleaning blades inside the cylindrical filter scrape and push the into the mesh of the filter, because the debris is on the same side as the scraper. By the same token, any cleaning fluid in the prior art filter cleaners is discharged on the inside of the cylindrical filter, and since the debris is collected on the inside of the filter, the fluid only pushes the debris into the cylindrical mesh, as illustrated:



Costinel 825 attempts to compensate for this shortcoming by periodically reversing flow and backflushing:

The separator is backflushed automatically to remove the oil accumulated in the collection zones 42 and 44.

Costinel, Column 10, lines 65-66.

The of clean water through separator 20 is in the reverse direction to the flow of fluid ... Clean water displaces oil ...

Costinel, Column 11, lines 10-13.

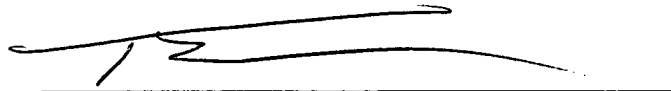
A key benefit of the present invention is that there is no need to backflush to clean the filter, and this benefit is now reflected in amended claim 1. In this way it is believed that claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the cited art, and claim 1 and claim 8 depending therefrom are believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing considerations, it is respectfully urged that amended claim 1 and added claim 8 should be allowed. Such action is respectfully requested.

If there are any reservations about allowing these claims, a telephone interview is respectfully requested.

A Petition to Revive for unintentional abandonment is enclosed together with the required revival fee.

Respectfully submitted,



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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop PETITIONS, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the 2nd day of May, 2008.

Signed: _____

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Applicant: Alberto DiBella
Serial No. : 10/719,825
Filed: November 21, 2003
For: VORAXIAL FILTRATION SYSTEM WITH SELF-CLEANING
AUXILIARY FILTRATION APPARATUS
Examiner: Joseph W. Drodge Art Unit: 1723